Immigration - 1915

PITTSBURGH, PA.
Courier
JAN 7 1915

THE LEGISLATURE

With the new year comes a new law making body for the State of Pennsylvania. In Harrisburg will be gathered the representatives from all over the state, seeking new legislation for the old as well as the new conditions which have arisen throughout the commonwealth.

For this new body of men the Negroes of Pennsylvania have a message. It may properly be termed a reminder, especially in view of the platform adopted by the Republican party of Pennsylvania. We beg to remind the various representatives that they enjoy their respective seats at the expense of the Negro franchise, the state over. The Negro is entitled to some consideration as a fair expression of appreciation for his political support.

At the last meeting of the Republican committee, a very satisfactory plank was read into the Republican platform. That plank decried the discriminatory practices of the Democratic administration against the Negro; that plank promised remedial legislation affecting the Negro of Pennsylvania; that plank condemned all things savoring of discrimination, prejudice and unfair treatment toward the black citizen of the Keystone State.

The Courier has the recorded promise of the Republicans of Pennsylvania; it has the recorded pledges of many of the admitted leaders of Republicanism in this state. We take the liberty, therefore, to urge legislation upon the following subjects: We want upon the books a law forbidding the present discrimatory practices of theater proprietors, cafe proprietors, proprietors of public places of amusement, in short, we want on the books a law which will guarantee to us the same treatment accorded any other citizen. We want representation on the pay-roll at Harrisburg commensurate with our realty holdings and taxation; we want suitable appropriation for our institutions of a charitable and semi-charitable nature.

There is no half-way ground between what we want and the granting; we are not asking for anything we should not have, nor for anything any other country would refuse its citizens. Our loyalty to the Republican party in the recent campaign ought to be argument enough. The Governor must be reminded that he is the Governor of his Negro constituency as well as of his white; that he can aid largely in the proper distribution of civic and political recognition. We shall be disappointed, indeed, if this session of the State legislature does not prove the greatest the state has ever known.

Houston, Tex.
Chronicle
JAN 9 - 1915

NEGRO IMMIGRATION.

The house of representatives has rejected the senate amendment to the immigration bill barring Africans from this country. Many southern congressmen voted against it, their attitude apparently being based on the theory that the amendment, if incorporated, might prejudice enough northern members to jeopardize the entire measure.

Republican Leader Mann expressed the opinion that the opponents of the bill would do well to support the amendment, as that would insure its death, but declared that he could not stultify himself by doing such an injustice to the negro race.

Mr. Eagle seems to have identified the situation in its true light in asserting that the United States contains all the negroes it can successfully support.

The question of justice or injustice as applied to other peoples scarcely enters into the problem of immigration, as other peoples enjoy no inherent right to occupy this country. They can come here only when given permission to do so by the existing government.

So long as nations exist separately and in entirety, as they do today, there can be no question that ecah nation possesses the privilege of regulating its own affairs, provided it does no injury to the people of another nation or of another race. To do such injury implies an infringement of rights and privileges which a people or a nation may enjoy through inheritance or through their constituted government.

No people in the world possess the right to come tc the United States and occupy this country as their home except by express permission of the government of the United States.

To refuse them permission, except it has been guaranteed by a specific agreement, is doing them no injustice, since it is taking away no right that they possess except through the courtesy of this government.

The negro race constitutes one of the greatest problems this country has to face. It has been a burden for centuries past, and in all probability will be a burden for many succeeding centuries.

In comparison with the negro race the Chinaman amounted to nothing, yet we excluded the Chinaman without qualm or conscience. To do this we affronted the oldest established government in the world, yet our rights were not questioned.

To exclude negroes we shall affront no government, we shall transgress no treaty and shall deprive no person of a privilege which rightfully belongs to him.

If the negro is possessed of an inalienable right to come into this country, then the European afflicted with trachoma enjoys the same right. We exclude the one for the same purpose and on the same ground as we do the other, the issue being whether or not their exclusion is to the best interest of our own people.

Birmingham, Ala.
JAN 15 1915

The Most Drastic Legislation as to the Negro Since the Civil War.

The last day of the year 1914 was the last day of slavery for the great majority of the Negroes of the United States. The instrument by which they were made free must ever remain one of the charters of American liberty. Watch meetings among the blacks, prayer meetings among the whites of the North, quiet approval from the civilized nations of all the world, accompanied its coming into effect.

The last day of the year 1914 promises to have an important sifinificance in the same connection. On that day the Senate of the United States wrote into the new immigration bill the most drastic proviso of all our legislation concerning the Negro since the emancipation proclamation. It is brief. It simply adds to the list of those persons who shall be absolutely prohibited from entering the country as immigrants—

"All members of the African or black race."

No watch meetings have been held. There has not even been an editorial discussion of the matter in the newspapers. In the Senate no one even opposed it in debate. The entire discussion is reported in less than two pages of the Congressional Record. Senator Reed of Missouri introduced the amendment. Senators Williams of Mississippi, Sutherland of Utah, and Smith of South Carolina debated it favorably. It was then written into the law by a vote of 29 yeas, 25 nays, and 42 not voting.

The effect of this amendment is to class foreign-born negroes with the Chinese and the Japanese. Under the protest of Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, the Upper House refused to take similar action as to Turks and Mexicans. Only the question was raised: Would not the literacy test reject the Negroes without such special prohibition? And when it was made clear that 77 per cent of the black immigrants can read and write, the Senate, by a vote not noticeable either for size or character of its majority, ordered the new limitation into the bill.

The action of the Senate compels three conclusions—

That, in its judgment, the present negro population of 9,827,763 constitutes a problem which must not be increased from the outside.

That, in its judgment, the value of educating the Negro is open to question.

That, in its judgment, the risk of race antagonism is not too great a price to pay for the offset—as far as the Constitution will permit—of the legislation in behalf of the Negro that grew out of the Civil War.

Negro Exclusion Amendment Defeated

The Senate's negro exclusion amendment to the Immigrant bill was rejected by the House on January 7 by the decisive vote of 252 to 75. In addition, the House directed a disagreement with the Senate amendment admitting Belgian farm laborers without requiring them to take the literacy test, and asked for a further conference with the Senate on this point. The debate on negro exclusion, according to the report of proceedings as given in the New York "Times," was short and warm. Southern members showed opposition to it. Representative Aswell, of Louisiana, led in support of concurrence, but Representative Burnett, of Alabama, chairman of the Committee of Immigration, took strong ground against the idea as a reflection on the many millions of Americans of African descent and appealed eloquently to his colleagues to stand solidly against the amendment. Representative Dies, of Texas, opposed concurrence and predicted that the whole bill would fail if the negro exclusion provision were to be adopted. Representative Mann, of Illinois, Republican leader, challenged the wisdom of the views of those who proposed exclusion and said if the Senate amendment should be adopted the whole bill would be killed. The result of the roll call was greeted with hearty applause. The effect of such a strong vote on the part of the House, according to many members, will be to dissuade the Senate from further insistence on the idea of excluding negroes. The House's action leaves the law of 1870 as it stood, making persons of African nativity and descent eligible to admission as aliens with all the rights of possible citizenship. There were no Republican votes for the amendment, the seventy-five votes for it all coming from the Democratic side. Against the amendment 157 votes came from the Democratic side and ninety-five from the Republican side.

WASHINGTON RAPS BILL

Noted Tuskegean Thinks Immigration Measure Passed by Democrats Blow at Race.

Dr. Booker T. Washington, the widely known and popular head of Tuskegee Institute, has come out in a very strong protest against the unjust immigration bill recently passed by the Democratic Senate, controlled, as it is, by Southern men like Vardaman, Hoke Smith, Tillman and others. Writing to the New York World Dr. Washington says:

"Through your newspaper I desire to appeal to the American Congress and to the people of the United States in favor of fair play and justice in connection with the immigration bill now pending before the United States Senate, which by amendment excludes from coming into this country any person of African descent.

"The bill, in my opinion, is unjust, unreasonable and unnecessary. It is unnecessary because only a few thousand people of African descent enter this country annually. Practically all of these that do come are mainly from the West Indies and almost none from the continent of Africa. It is evident that many of those who come into this country do not remain permanently, but I find, according to the census of 1910, there were in the United States only 40,319 colored people who were foreign born and only 473 of these had come from Africa.

"The bill puts an unnecessary slight upon colored people by classing them with alien criminals.

"The bill in its present form would seem to prohibit citizens from the Republic of Liberia, Cuba and Hayti, and also from Porto Rico and Santo Domingo, entering this country, thus placing an unnecessary hardship upon these smaller countries, which would not be done, in my opinion, if they were stronger.

"In a personal conversation with a high officer of the Panama Canal Commission he told me that the services of the Jamaican colored laborers were invaluable in building the Panama Canal. Now that we are celebrating the completion of this great canal, it seems most unjust and unreasonable that the people who contributed in so large a measure toward it should be slapped in the face and told that they cannot enter this country even when they meet the requirements of our Government.

"An investigation will show that the colored people who have come to this country from the West Indian Islands, and from other foreign countries, have proved as a whole to be a law-abiding, intelligent, industrious class. They have never become Anarchists or as a class given trouble to the Government.

"Let me repeat that it is unfair at this time, when we are all striving to bring about racial harmony and peace, to raise a question which is calculated to stir up needless strife, and I cannot feel that the best people in the South approve of any such bill.

"Lastly, the passing of such an unjust law will crippie the missionary and educational work which we are trying to do in Africa and elsewhere For a number of years some of the brightest young people from Africa and elsewhere have been coming to this country to receive training to fi them to go back and help their people, and this they have done in an effective manner. All this, I understand, will be stopped by the passing of this law.

"This measure is not political or sectional, and I hope that all people will see the justice of asking Congress to refrain from perpetrating this unjust act upon my race. Certainly we have enough to contend with already without having this additional handicap and discouragement placed in our pathway.

"BOOKER T. WASHINGTON."
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 2.

Troy Record

JAN 8 1915

A WITLESS AMENDMENT.

The immigration bill now before Congress has been through the amendment stage and now is in conference. It is understood the literacy test is not to be disturbed, but several minor differences between the two measures as passed by the Senate and House will have to be adjusted before the result of the conferees' work can go to the President. Among the amendments which will be considered is one excluding members of the Negro race from the right of immigration, whether illiterate or not.

This is nothing more than a slur on the black man, perpetrated for the sake of certain southerners whose prejudices outrun their wisdom. That any menace exists through the incoming Negro is impossible; to hold it up as a liability is silly. The total number of Negroes coming into the country in a year never exceeds a few thousands. Most of these come north from the West Indies for personal service and the returning tide is almost as heavy as that which enters our ports. In the entire country, according to the census of 1910, there were but 40,319 foreign-born Negroes, a negligible number in comparison with the total colored population. Indeed, it is less than one-half of one per cent.

Booker T. Washington of Tuskegee institute asks for the elimination of this amendment because it is nothing more than a gratuitous insult to his race. No good is accomplished by it; no object is possible other than an expression of personal animus. The conferees, for the satisfaction of the north and the erection of a decent ideal in immigration, should see that the offensive paragraph is removed. The Jamaica Negro, the type chiefly represented in immigration, is perhaps the best class of citizen the black race has produced. Except for prejudice, he would be an acceptable addition to the nation's population. But so rarely does he enter the country, except for a few months or years of domestic service, that even he can not become a problem. If he does, the Negro vote has been eliminated in so large a part of the country that the menace can be attended to. To-day such an amendment is distasteful not only to the decent element among the Negroes but also to a very large proportion of the Caucasian population in the United States.

New York Tribune

8 January 1915

HOUSE REFUSES TO BAN NEGROES

Rejects, Also, Belgian Exemption Amendment to Immigration Bill.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 7.—The House rejected by decisive votes to-day the Senate amendments to the Burnett Immigration bill excluding immigrants of "the African or black race" and exempting Belgians who come to this country to enter agricultural pursuits from standing the literacy test.

The so-called Ethiopian exclusion amendment was defeated by a vote of 252 to 75. No rollcall was demanded on the Belgian exemption amendment, but the "noes" were overwhelmingly in the majority.

Representatives Eagle, of Texas, and Quin, of Mississippi, Democrats, enlivened the debate on the negro exclusion amendment.

"With the market for our cotton gone," Mr. Eagle asserted, "we've got more niggers in the South now than we can feed. We don't want any more to come to this country, for they're not welcome. I agree with Mr. Quin that we ought to send them to a colony somewhere—send them back where they were when the Yankees found them and brought them over here and sold them to us down South."

Mr. Mann, the minority leader, declared that the negro exclusion amendment was an injustice to the race, "and if the amendment is kept in this bill it's as dead as a last year's smelt," he added. "The amendment smells to Heaven more than last year's smelt, and although it is a temptation to opponents of this bill to vote for this amendment and thus kill the bill, I shall not stultify myself at the expense of this race.

Representative Tribble, of Georgia, led the opposition to the Belgian exemption amendment. He contended that it would be a violation of the neutrality of the United States to single out immigrants coming from a single nation and exempt them from the literacy test.

Immigration - 1915

NEGROES NOT BARRED BY IMMIGRATION BILL

Proposition Is Voted Down in the House and Bill Sent to Conference.

Constitution 1-8-15

Washington, January 7.—The immigration bill was sent to conference late today by the house after it had registered its disapproval of senate amendments barring "members of the African or black race," and exempting agricultural immigrants from Belgium from the literacy test and the contract immigration provisions.

Both of these amendments caused protracted debate. Most of the southern members favored retention of the negro amendment, but others suggested that to press it might mean final defeat of the entire bill. Northern representatives generally opposed the provision. After an extended debate a roll call showed a vote of 252 to 75 against it.

The Belgian exception was defeated without division after several efforts to alter its provisions had been voted down. Representative Cullop proposed to broaden the exception to admit not only farmers, but industrial workers from Belgium. Representative Gallagher suggested inclusion also of farmers from Poland.

The senate amendment to exclude all of "constitutional psychopathic inferiority and persons with chronic alcoholism" was accepted.

Much of today's debate was against the literacy test, opposed by President Wilson, despite the fact that it already had been agreed on by both houses. Representative Gallivan made an effort to secure another vote on the test provision, but was ruled out of order.

Sharp Debate Over Negroes.

The amendment to bar negroes caused a sharp debate.

Representative Madden, of Illinois, assailed the amendment "as un-American and contrary to modern civilization." He declared negroes were "good citizens."

Representative Quinn, of Mississippi, declared the amendment should be agreed to. He asserted that the constant increase in the numbers of negroes in the United States was a "menace to the republic, and a leprous spot on our modern life." He declared that by halting the immigration of negroes, conditions could be materially improved.

Some of the southern representatives took opposite sides on the negro amendment. While Representatives Burnett, of Alabama, and Slayden and Dies, of Texas, urged against pressing it, contending it would jeopardize other features of the bill, Representatives Aswell, of Louisiana; Eagle, of Texas, and Small, of North Carolina, favored its adoption.

Representative Eagle declared the south already had more millions of negroes than the north had thousands of them.

"We do not want the negroes to come into our country," he said. "It has taken us a century to educate the southern negro and we don't want any more of them down our way."

Representative Dies said the bill would bar 300,000 undesirable aliens, and that the negro proposal would jeopardize the objects of the bill, regardless of the merits of the amendment.

Great Temptation, Says Mann.

Republican Leader Mann declared it was a great temptation for those opposed to the bill to vote for the amendment.

"If the amendment should be agreed to," he said, "the bill would be as dead as a last year's smelt. I am unwilling to stultify myself by doing an injustice to the race."

Representative Small said that while the negroes now in the United States should be treated fairly, he believed that further influence sould be stopped.

Representative Aswell declared the only argument used by those opposed to the enactment was that it might endanger the bill, which, he contended, was no argument at all.

Representative Burnett, in charge of the bill, answering Eagle's contention that the youth was most affected by negro immigration, declared that last year 8,000 of the African race came into the United States. Of that number, he said, only thirty-nine went to Louisiana, not one to Texas, a few to Alabama and some other southern states, while more than 3,000 went to New York.

"You have a trap set for you by the opposition," he declared. "Can you take the responsibility of beating the bill merely for politics?"

Representative Tribble, of Georgia, attacked the senate amendment to waive all the restrictions in the bill in the case of Belgian farmers who might wish to come to the United States after the war to take up homes and become citizens of this country.

Mr. Tribble feared that this exception might lead to foreign complications. He thought it violated the most favored nation clause of many existing treaties. He also opposed the scheme to colonize these Belgians in the south. If land and homes were to be provided free for anybody, he said, Americans should be the beneficiaries.

Brooklyn Standard Union.

12 January 1915

CALDER FOUGHT FOR NEGRO IMMIGRANTS

Text of Speech Against Amendment to Bill Made Public.

STRONG PLEA FOR DEFEAT

Told of Work in Building Panama Canal.

(Special to The Standard Union.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Congressman William M. Calder, of Brooklyn, delivered a speech in the House recently concerning the immigration bill. In the course of his speech, which has been a subject of attention for some days, Congressman Calder defended the negro race. The text of the speech was available to-day. Congressman Calder said in part:

"This Senate amendment to the immigration bill, if agreed to, will exclude from entering this country all members of the African or black race under every and all circumstances and is, in my judgment, unwise, unjust, and unnecessary. It will stir up racial strife and accomplish no material advantage to anyone. This bill, if enacted into law will exclude from the United States the illiterate alien and all criminals and undesirables—this amendment seeks to class the negro with the criminal and undesirable. He will not be permitted to come here to be educated or visit for the purpose of travel, even if some member of his family is a citizen. The amendment is unnecessary for the reason that very few of the negro race come here from foreign lands. Only a few thousand enter this land annually; nearly all come from the West Indies and practicaly none from the Continent of Africa. The census of 1910 shows that only 40,000 negroes of foreign birth reside in this country and less than 500 of these come from Africa."

"This amendment will prevent the citizens of Liberia, Cuba, Haiti, Porto Rico, and other West Indian islands entering this country, placing an unnecessary hardship upon the people of a race that numbers so large among our own people. The gentleman from Illinois in his remarks today has referred to the fact that the negro was brought here in the beginning unwillingly, and in all the years of his seryitude has obeyed the laws of the land; on every battlefield and in every sphere of human endeavor he has done his part to uphold the hands of the Government.

Work on Canal Building.

"It has been my privilege as a member of the Appropriations Committee of this House to visit the Isthmus of Panama and inspect the work done there on the canal. For a number of years more than 30,000 negroes, from the West Indies and other islands in the Caribbean Sea, were at work on the canal. We owe much to their industry and perseverence. Climatic conditions were of such a character that our own American negro was unable to do the work and the common laborer of Europe would not undertake it. It seems unjust and unreasonable that a people who contributed so much to this work should be debarred from this country if able to meet the other requirements of the immigration law.

"My own experience with the West Indian negro is that he is law-abiding, coming here usually with a fair education and willing to take his place with the other law-abiding, intelligent citizens of his class.

Bad Effect of Proposal.

"The passage of such an unjust law would undoubtedly cripple our missionary work with the negroes in Africa. It would incur enmity not easily overcome. Our people have contributed large sums of money to educate and Christianize the black races. We have brought the youth of Liberia here to educate in our schools and then sent them back to help improve the condition of their people. If this amendment prevails the door will be closed on this important work. The question is a far-reaching one, and on sober second thought I am sure the members of this body will be induced to vote overwhelmingly to defeat this amendment."

New York Sun

January 1915

HOUSE STRIKES OUT NEGRO EXCLUSION

Senate Amendment to Immigration Bill Defeated by 252 to 75.

BELGIAN EXEMPTION FAILS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—By a vote of 252 to 75 the House struck to-day from the immigration bill the Senate amendment that proposed to exclude negroes from admission to the United States.

The fight on the amendment was led by Representative Burnett of Alabama, joint author of the bill, who declared that if the amendment should be adopted it would defeat the entire measure. He charged that the amendment had been put in the bill by its enemies, who hoped thus to defeat it.

The amendment aimed at negroes has caused excitement in Washington, which has a negro population of more than 100,000. Many negro men and women were in the galleries to-day while the Senate amendment was under discussion.

Representative Mann, who is opposed to the immigration bill, agreed with Mr. Burnett that if the Senate amendment should be adopted it would kill the legislation.

"If the Senate amendment stays in the bill it will soon be as dead as a last year's smelt," said Mr. Mann. "It is something of a temptation to those who oppose this bill to vote for the amendment with the idea of killing the legislation. Moreover, I refuse to stultify myself by doing this injustice to the colored race."

Enthusiastic Supporters.

Representatives Eagle of Texas and Quin of Mississippi were enthusiastic in the support of the negro exclusion amendment. Frequently in the course of their remarks the two members used the word "nigger."

Mr. Eagle suggested that many Northern members were opposed to the exclusion amendment, but he added that few of them rode on the street cars that are so generally patronized by the negroes of Washington. Mr. Eagle observed that a majority of the Northerners who owned automobiles did not have to touch shoulders with the negroes on the street cars of the city.

"Everybody would be better off if we could colonize the negroes somewhere," shouted Mr. Quin.

With the defeat of the Senate amendment the House turned its attention to the amendment proposing to exempt Belgians from the application of the literacy test. This was opposed by Representative Tribble of Georgia on the ground that it might be regarded as an unneutral act.

Mr. Tribble declared the people of Europe as a whole are sufferers from the war and that the Belgians should not be singled out for special exemption. Representative Sabath of Illinois wanted to have the exemption applied to the Poles.

Belgian Exemption Also Denied.

By an overwhelming vote the House refused to concur in the Senate amendment favoring the Belgians.

The Senate amendment excluding aliens suffering from "constitutional psychopathic inferiority" caused a commotion. When this amendment was reached Representative O'Shaunessy of Rhode Island, who seemed bewildered, wanted to know what the term meant.

"I'm sure I don't know," replied Speaker Clark.

Representative Brown of New York said that the term meant "feeble minded" and the amendment was then adopted.

The bill now goes to a conference representing the two houses. An early report is expected. The literacy test, the main feature of the bill, was not a subject of controversy to-day and will not be subject to change in conference, as the Senate adopted the provision just as it was passed by the House a year ago.

New York Sun Post

JAN 7 - 1915

IMMIGRATION BILL UNFAIR TO NEGRO SAYS RACE LEADER

Booker T. Washington Attacks Discrimination Against His People in Senate Measure.

ONLY FEW COME TO U. S.

Thinks Cubans Could Not Come in and Missionary Work in Africa Would Suffer.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—The following letter to the editor of the New York World from Booker T. Washington is printed in the World under the caption, "Fair Play for Negro Aliens."

"Through your newspaper I desire to appeal to the American Congress and to the people of the United States in favor of fair play and justice in connection with the immigration bill now pending before the United States Senate, which by amendment excludes from coming into this country any person of African descent.

"The bill, in my opinion, is unjust, unreasonable and unnecessary. It is unnecessary because only a few thousand people of African descent enter this country annually. Practically all of these that do come are from the West Indies and almost none from the continent of Africa. It is evident that many of those who come into this country do not remain permanently, but I find, according to census of 1910, there were in the United States only 40,319 negroes who were foreign born and only 473 of these had come from Africa.

"The bill puts an unnecessary slight upon colored people by classing them with alien criminals.

Would Bar Cubans, He Says.

"The bill in its present form would seem to prohibit citizens from the republics of Liberia, Cuba and Hayti and also from Porto Rico and Santo Domingo, entering this country, thus placing an unnecessary hardship upon these smaller countries, which would not be done, in my opinion, if they were stronger. It seems to me that the strength or weakness of the nation should not constitute our sense of justice toward that nation, but the weaker the nation the more we ought to be sure that no injustice is done.

"In a personal conversation with a high officer of the Panama Canal Commission he told me that the services of the Jamaican negro were invaluable in building the Panama Canal. Now that we are celebrating the completion of this great canal it seems most unjust and unreasonable that the people who contributed in so large a measure toward it should be slapped in the face and told that they cannot enter this country even when they meet the requirements of our Government.

"The passing of the bill will stir up racial strife and accomplish no practical purpose.

"An investigation will show that the colored people who have come to this country from the West Indian Islands and from other foreign countries have proved as a whole to be a law-abiding, intelligent, industrious class. They have never become anarchists or as a class given trouble to the Government.

Will Hurt Missionary Work.

"Let me repeat, then, it is unfair at this time, when we are all striving to bring about racial harmony and peace, to raise a question which is calculated to stir up needless strife, and I cannot feel that the best people in the South, where the bulk of the colored people live, approve the passage of any such bill.

"Lastly, the passing of such an unjust law will cripple the missionary and educational work which we are trying to do in Africa and elsewhere.

"For a number of years some of the brightest young people from Africa and elsewhere have been coming to this country to receive training to fit them to go back and help their people, and this they have done in an effective manner. All this, I understand, will be stopped by the passing of this law.

"This measure is not political or sectional and I hope that all people will see the justice of asking Congress to refrain from perpetrating this unjust act upon my race. Certainly we have enough to contend with already without having this additional handicap and discouragement placed in our pathway."

Brooklyn Eagle

12

CALDER PLEADS FOR NEGRO

Strongly Opposes Amendment to Immigration Bill.

Eagle Bureau,
608 Fourteenth Street.

Washington, January 12—Representative William M. Calder, in the course of the debate on the immigration bill recently, strongly opposed the Senate amendment that would exclude from coming here all negroes. Mr. Calder said in part:

"Mr. Speaker, this Senate amendment to the immigration bill, if agreed to, will exclude from entering this country all members of the African or black race under every and all circumstances, and is, in my judgment, unwise, unjust, and unnecessary. It will stir up racial strife and accomplish no material advantage to anyone. This bill, if enacted into law, will exclude from the United States the illiterate alien and all criminals and undesirables—this amendment seeks to class the negro with the criminal and undesirable. He will not be permitted to come here to be educated or visit, for the purpose of travel, even if some member of his family is a citizen. The amendment is unnnecessary for the reason that very few of the negro race come here from foreign lands. Only a few thousand enter this land annually; nearly all come from the West Indies, and practically none from the Continent of Africa. This amendment will prevent the citizens of Liberia, Cuba, Haiti, Porto Rico and other West Indian islands entering this country, placing an unnecessary hardship upon the people of a race that numbers so large among our own people.

"It has been my privilege as a member of the Appropriations Committee of this House to visit the Isthmus of Panama and inspect the work done there on the canal. For a number of years more than 30,000 negroes from the West Indies and other islands in the Caribbean Sea were at work on the canal. We owe much to their industry and perseverence. Climatic conditions were of such a character that our own American negro was unable to do the work, and the common laborer of Europe would not undertake it. It seems unjust and unreasonable that a people who contributed so much to this work should be debarred from this country if able to meet the other requirements of the immigration law.

"My own experience with the West Indian negro is that he is law-abiding, coming here usually with a fair education, and willling to take his place with the other law-abiding, intelligent citizens of his class."

ARIZONA ALIEN LAW DECLARED TO BE INVALID

Constitution 1-8-15

San Francisco, January 7.—The Arizona anti-allien employment act, adopted by the people of the state at the November election as an initiative measure, was declared unconstitutional, null and void here today by a special court of three federal judges.

The court held that the statute violated the guarantees of life, liberty and the possession of property made to all alike, whether aliens or not, under the fourteenth amendment to the constitution; that if the state of Arizona could forbid any employer to hire more than 20 per cent of aliens, it could with equal justice forbid him to hire 1 per cent or even an individual alien.

This struck at the vitals of the act which ordered that any employer with a payroll of five or more names must see that at least 80 per cent of these names were of duly qualified electors.

"The law was intended," said the court, "to be a police regulation, but under guise of police regulation the state was in effect depriving the complainant of his right to labor, guaranteed to him by the fourteenth amendment to the United States constitution.

"The supreme court of the United States recently has held that the right to labor is a right of property. An alien cannot be deprived of the right of property under the constitution."

The court made permanent a temporary injunction issued by District Judge Sawtelle, restraining enforcement of the law.

Washington, January 7.—News that the Arizona anti-alien employment law had been declared unconstitutional was received with deep interest among diplomatists here today, especially at the British and Italian embassies which protested against it, and notably at the Japanese embassy. The decision is open for appeal to the supreme court.

New York Sun

January 1915

SENATE, 49 TO 7, VOTES STRICTER BANS ON ALIENS.

Literacy and Negro Exclusion Features Left for Wilson's Veto.

DOOR IS OPENED TO BELGIAN REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The immigration bill, with the literacy test included, passed the Senate late this afternoon by a vote of 49 to 7. It had already passed the House. The amendment excluding negroes stayed in, and a clause admitting Belgian refugees was added.

The bill will go to a conference committee of the Senate and House, but the literacy test, having passed both houses in the same form, will not be the subject of conference.

The bill will go to the President in a form unsatisfactory to him and probably will be vetoed. The President believes the literacy test is too rigorous.

The seven Senators who voted against the bill were Brandegee, McCumber, Martine, O'Gorman, Ransdell, Reed and Walsh. Brandegee and McCumber are Republicans; the others Democrats.

It was freely predicted to-day that if the President vetoes the measure the Senate will pass it over his veto. The House will hardly do so. If such a situation should develop, it will be the same as that following the veto of President Taft, when the Senate overrode the Presidential veto and the House failed to do so.

Senator Lodge's amendment admitting the Belgian refugees was adopted by a close vote after being modified. The vote was 34 to 22. It follows:

That the provisions of this act relating to the literacy test or induced or assisted immigration shall not apply to agricultural immigrants from Belgium, who come to the United States during the course of the present European war, or within one year after its termination, owing to circumstances or conditions arising through the war, if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Commissioner General of Immigration that the said Belgian immigrants come with the intention of engaging in agriculture in the United States and to become American citizens.

Plan to Shut Off Flow.

An amendment adopted directs the Commissioner-General of Immigration to note the growth of immigration to the United States and whenever it reaches the extent to become a menace to the wage earners by reducing the cost of labor or increasing the "army of unemployed" it shall be the duty of the Commissioner-General to report the facts to Congress.

The bill, as the Senate passed it, made several changes in the House text. The most important was a new amendment excluding from the United States "black persons of African descent."

The Senate changed the head tax on immigrants so that under the bill as it goes to conference the general tax is increased from $5 to $6, but in the case of an alien father accompanied by his wife, child or children, the tax shall be $4 for each of them.

The excluded classes were enlarged by a Senate amendment to take in "persons of constitutional psycopathic inferiority" and "persons with chronic alcoholism." The provisions of the bill relating to the exclusion of polygamists was amended, as stated in THE SUN last week, by excluding from the United States not only persons who admit their belief in polygamy, but persons as well who "believe in the practice of polygamy."

This amendment was fought by Senators Smoot and Sutherland on the ground that Mormons may believe in the rpactice of polygamy, but may not practise it, but the Senate voted it in on the theory that persons who believe in it, even though they do not admit it, are as dangerous as those who practise it or "admit" they believe in it.

Suspected Felons Excluded.

The Senate also changed the bill so that persons "legally charged with felony" shall be excluded. The House required that they should have been "convicted or admitted having committed" a felony.

The Senate strengthened the features of the bill which exclude the white slavers. Under the Senate amendment those fall within the ban who "directly or indirectly" procure persons for immoral purposes or the "importation or import" for such purposes.

In the contract labor classes excluded the Senate enlarged the language to shut out persons imported under contract "for mental or manual" labor. The amendment was opposed on the theory that it keeps out many skilled workers and scientific men necessary to the development of some of the new industries, like the manufacture of dyestuffs, by the interruption of the trade in these articles by the war in Europe, but it was adopted.

The Senate amended the bill in so far as it affected Japanese passports which had been complained against by the Japanese Ambassador. The insertion of the word "treaties," suggested by Secretary Bryan, cured the defect.

The House had a proviso in the bill "that nothing in the act shall exclude the wife or minor children of a citizen of the United States," but the Senate struck it out.

The Senate added to the House language words making it not only an offence to "induce, assist or encourage or solicit" alien laborers to come, but included also those who "attempt' to do the prohibited things.

Ban on Ship Inspectors.

The Senate struck from the bill the House section, which permitted the Secretary of Labor in his discretion to place matrons, physicians or inspectors in vessels bringing aliens to the United States for "inspection purposes." This section was subject of protest from several foreign Powers. A section was substituted authorizing the Secretary of Labor on hearing that a ship had sailed from a foreign port bringing to the United States aliens who fall within the prohibited classes to detain such passengers on the ship pending an inspection.

The Senate bill also provides that aliens arriving in the United States shall pass the scrutiny of two medical examiners and two immigrant inspectors.

The Senate amended the bill to make it certain that the marriage of an American citizen to an immoral woman or to a woman belonging to the prohibited classesshall not invest such woman with citizenship.

Senator O'Gorman made an unsuccessful effort to eliminate from the bill the provision which allows an informer against one who violates the alien contract labor provision of the bills to proceed on his own motion and recover a penalty of $1,000 against any person who is found guilty of having induced or tried to induce persons to violate that part of the bill. The language against which Mr. O'Gorman inveighed follows:

Such an action may be brought by any person who shall first bring his action therefor in his own and for his own benefit, including any such aliens thus offered or promised employment as aforesaid.

Senator O'Gorman declared that this language opened "the door to the grossest kind of blackmail."

Immigration – 1915

DR. WASHINGTON SPEAKS PLAINLY.

The action of the United States Senate in amending their immigration bill by providing for the barring of persons of African descent has waked up Dr. Booker T. Washington, who not only condemns this action, but calls attention to the fact that the Panama Canal could never have been dug but for the employment of Negroes from Jamaica and the other West India Islands. The distinguished educator shows that he is taking an active interest in what is transpiring.

We beg leave though to call his attention to the fact that political power is necessary to secure an adjustment of these conditions. In the South-land, the colored people have been told to eschew politics, to engage in business and to go back to the farm. This advice was all right in a way all wrong in other ways for the loss of political power has brought about the sacrifice of material interests. In this country of politics, it is absolutely essential to have political rights and to exercise them in order to protect property rights.

Protests by the mouth will do some good, but protests with the ballot will do much more good. Every representative who supported this outrageous measure should go into private life and remain there. It is indeed unfortunate that we are not able to place in this body statesmen who can rise above petty prejudices and be supported by the people, who sent them there. Dr. Booker T. Washington is all right in this position he has taken and the indications are that he will be all right in many others in the future.

NATURALIZE AN EAST AFRICAN IN PHILA.

Special to The New York Age.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 17.—For the first time in twenty-five years a native East African was naturalized in this city when papers were granted to Frederick Gibson.

Gibson was well posted on the requirements and answered all questions with an exceptional degree of accuracy.

THAT IMMIGRATION BILL.

Senator James A. Reed of Kansas City, Missouri has th unique distinction of having offered an amendment to the immigration bill providing for the barring from entrance here of all persons of African descent or of the black race. Senator Williams of Mississippi gave as his reason for supporting the amendment that there were enough Negroes in this country already. The astounding part about that matter is that Senators Borah, Poindexter, Sterling, Sutherland and Works voted in favor of the amendment and these five senators were elected to the United States Senate as Republicans. They show plainly their antipathy to colored people.

On the other hand Senators Hughes Lane, Lewis Pomperene, Robinson Shafroth and Thomas, Democrats voted against it. It shows that you can no longer determine a statesman's position upon the race question by his political affiliations. We would sooner vote for any one of these seven Democrats than for any one of these five Republicans. We met Senator Sutherland several years ago in Salt Lake City, Utah and we are surprised at his attitude.

The immigration bill was passed after this amendment had been adopted by vote of 25 to 29. But what about international complications as a result of this vote? These West Indian colored people are subjects of Great Britain and as such are entitled to free admission into this country. France has citizens of African descent and they are subject to like consideration. This country has made representations to Russia on account of the refusal of that country to recognize the American pass-ports of citizens of Jewish descent and now by vote of the upper chamber of the American congress it proceeds to practice the very discrimination that it has condemned in another.

It is announced that President Wilson will veto the immigration bill should these restrictions be passed by the lower branch of congress. Let us hope that he may do so. Conditions now are puzzling and critical. The practicing of "peanut politics" is every where in evidence. The penalty for all of this is war. Europe is now being drenched in blood as a result of the duplicity of its statesmen and the United States is marching boldly to the front in search of a similar experience. May God help the nation.

SOUTH'S SENATORS VOTE TO EXCLUDE ANY MORE NEGROES

Number of Republicans Join in Amendment to Immigration Bill

WILLIAMS MAKES SPEECH

Special to The Advertiser.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Southern Senators generally voted this afternoon for the amendment to the immigration bill to prevent any more negroes from coming to the United States. But there were also a number of Republican votes cast for the "shut-out" proposition, otherwise it could not have been adopted for some of the Democrats opposed the amendment. Robinson of Arkansas, was one for instance, and several of the Northern Democrats sided with the Republicans.

Senator Williams of Mississippi made a speech for the amendment, which evidently had much effect. He argued that as Chinese and Japanese are not permitted to come to this country neither should any more negroes be admitted. He also took the position that there are already enough negroes in the United States and that an addition to that population from other countries was not desired by either the white people or the black.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON RAPS NEGRO AMENDMENT

Tuskegee, Ala., January 3.—The amendment incorporated in the immigration bill, which excludes immigrants of African descent from entering the United States, was unnecessary, unjust and unreasonable, Booker T. Washington, principal of the Tuskegee institute, said here tonight in a statement commenting on the measure passed Saturday by the senate.

The negro educator asserted that without the services of the West indian negroes the Panama canal could not have been completed in such a satisfactory way and that to prohibit the entry of a race that had been so largely instrumental in this work, even should they meet the requirements of the immigration laws, was unfair and an unnecessary discrimination against the negro race.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Washington, D. C.—The colored ministers of Washington worked hard in trying to defeat the Negro clause in the Immigration Bill. Few representatives escaped their personal visits. They called on nearly every Representative personally presenting their protests. The Rev. D. E. Wiseman and the Rev. Von Tou called on the British Ambassador in behalf of the Negro British subjects. Among others most active were Prof. Kelly Miller, Dr. F. E. Grimke, Revs. S. H. Stephen, W. H. Dean, M. W. D. Norman, M. F. Sydes, E. E. Recks, S. H. Drew and Prof. Geo. W. Cook.

A hasty meeting was called by the executive committee of the Legal Rights League of which W. Calvin Chase is chairman, to appoint a committee to present their protest before the immigration committee of he house. The committee appointed Attorneys Thos. L. Jones, B. L. Gaskins, A. W. Scott, A. W. Gray and Thomas Walker.

Dr. Wilbanks, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, has moved into his new home at 26 G street, Southwest, which he is purchasing. The property is valued at $12,000 and consists of a house of 14 rooms, including a

PROGRESS OF THE NEGRO.

The attitude of the national administration toward the negro is unfortunate at a time when the race is able to show s much of progress and hope for the future. The clause in the immigration bill happily cut out by the house, forbidding negro immigration, was as unjust as it was unnecessary when there is certainly no peril of negro immigration.

When the immortal emancipation proclamation was written a little more than half a century ago, the colored population of the United States numbered 4,000,000—helpless wards of a nation, freed from bondage, without education, or means of support, dependent and friendless. Today the negro population has increased to 10,000,000. The negro has become an efficient and self-supporting farm laborer. There are over 2,000,000 farmers, 36,000 miners, 20,000 barbers, 21,000 teachers, 15,000 clergymen, 2,500 physicians, 2,000,000 mistresses of i dependent homes, and 2,000,000 children in the public schools. The negro pays on property valued at $570,000,000. His part in the national government is contributed in the 9,000 negro officers in the executive service of the

nation; and in the state and municipal civil service he holds at least 10,000 offices. He furnishes four competent regiments to the regular army and contributes 500,000 votes to the country.

Even the doctors and alienists in the senate were not quite certain what was meant by persons of "constitutional psychopathic inferiority." Such were to be excluded from the country by the terms of the immigration bill. Senator Gallinger, who is a physician, could define "psychopathic inferiority," but was doubtful what it meant with the qualifying "constitutional." Finally the phrase was sent to conference by both houses and the conferees requested to bring back a substitute or a report which congress could understand. Senator Smith of South Carolina said that the "medical doctors" had put the phrase in the bill, and that he could not explain it, unless it meant "one whose mental inheritance renders him by virtue of his hereditary taint inferior."

THE PROPOSED IMMIGRATION LAW.

In speaking of the immigration bill now before Congress the Indianapolis News, last Monday, stated our views very clearly. We think, as it does, that the tests, literacy and otherwise, are sufficient for the Negroes without the special legislation of Negro exclusion. The News said:

We can see no reason or justice in excluding negroes, not as illiterates, but simply as negroes. The amendment to that effect is the work of Senator Reed, of Missouri. It ought not to prevail. The principle is inconsistent with that on which the bill is based—that is, that the literacy test is sufficiently exclusive. Now it is proposed to say that even those negroes who can read and write shall be excluded. This is to subject them to an added burden, and to deprive them of a right which others would enjoy. It was to avoid just such discrimination as this that the literacy test was agreed on. The anti-negro amendment should be defeated.

It is to be hoped that if the amendment carries that it will be struck down when it reaches President Wilson. In hoping this we will forget all about the Presidents stand on segregation for the moment. Practically the Negroes are not hurt since but a few come to this country from the islands, and none from Africa worth mentioning. And for that reason Mr. Reed should have been charitable enough to have permitted the race question to slumber as best it could without this further disturbment.

In fact, we see in his action marked cruelty, placing us on the rack, tearing wounds afresh, and all so unnecessary.

As a thing of principle we are greatly hurt if our government objects to the best qualified Negro entering the country when that qualification is the same as that of others who are permitted to enter. We are not in for the savages of Africa jumping into our civilization any more than the bitterest anti-Negro agitator. We can, however, conceive of highly qualified Negroes coming from abroad now and then, and who, according to their

education and standing should not suffer owing to race. We think our country should be the last one to put up such barriers. We think that Congressmen should hail it as a delight to legislate generally and still get the special results expected. The tests equal Negro exclusion. Why go further?

It is to be hoped that we are not to be made ashamed of our government owing to stupidity; it is that, and more, when it assails a people merely because it is possible to do so, and especially as it concerns us with our peculiar history and present standing.

It will be admitted that the government when dealing with those coming into the country are not bound by judicial niceties. Congress can do as it chooses. Yet, it will be observed that it has sought to be uniform in the application of the tests as per the bill now pending before that body. It has sought to be uniform as it concerns others than Africans. In the case of the Belgians it has been exceptionally favorable. We do not object since those people have been maltreated, and deserve the world's humanity. At the same time we have done nothing to merit the maligning of our own people.

The Negroes have looked to Washington in the past as a haven of hope from what was considered the irregular legislation of the constitutions of so many of the Southern States. Those constitutions, as poorly as we think of them, are regular enough, showing no intent on the face, the most of them, to defeat the Negro of the suffrage. The "grandfather" clause and the rest of them were regular tests, and while set forward to defeat the race, were no less honest in the letter having in mind the equality of the laws. That Negroes could not subscribe to the tests, was their bad luck. The point is that the makers of those ingeniously worded instruments were scrupulously observant of the constitution of the United States which declared against laws of inequality.

Immigration laws are not necessarily influenced by the laws of the land, however, there is a similar influence extending out—the sameness of terms to all people. Are we to see consideration for us struck down right in the haven of hope? Is our race to feel that it has no "throne" to which to appeal? No commonness in the world with other nations? Are we to be indicted in that we live?

Somehow we feel that this miserable part of the bill will fail, and as it should. There is absolutely no necessity for such legislation. Why strike at ten million people, throwing them into the class of pronounced undesirables, when there is no sign of a race menace as it concerns that people. In event the African hordes threaten Congress will not have become palsied. It is as much important to do things that make for peace at home—present peace—as to make effort to thwart future disturbance—more so. The present we know. The future is vague and uncertain. To build to it at the expense of the present will be a certain calamity; while the future is purely speculative.

New York Times

January 1915

NEGRO EXCLUSION DEFEATED IN HOUSE

Southerners Lead Fight on Senate Provision, Which Is Rejected by Vote of 252 to 75.

BELGIAN CLAUSE HELD UP

Further Conference Is Sought on Proposal to Suspend the Literacy Test for Farm Laborers.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The Senate's negro exclusion amendment to the Immigrant bill was rejected by the House today by the decisive vote of 252 to 75. In addition, the House directed a disagreement with the Senate amendment admitting Belgian farm laborers without requiring them to take the literacy test, and asked for a further conference with the Senate on this point.

The debate on negro exclusion was short and warm. Southern members showed opposition to it. Representative Aswell of Louisiana led in support of concurrence, but Representative Burnett of Alabama, Chairman of the Committee of Immigration, took strong ground against the idea as a reflection on the many millions of Americans of African descent and appealed eloquently to his colleagues to stand solidly against the amendment.

Representative Dies of Texas opposed concurrence and predicted that the whole bill would fail if the negro exclusion provision were to be adopted.

Representative Mann of Illinois, Republican leader, challenged the wisdom of the views of those who proposed exclusion and said if the Senate amendment should be adopted the whole bill would be killed.

The result of the roll call was greeted with hearty applause. The effect of such a strong vote on the part of the House, according to many members, will be to dissuade the Senate from further insistance on the idea of excluding negroes. Today's action leaves the law of 1870 as it stood, making persons of African nativity and descent eligible to admission as aliens with all the rights of possible citizenship. There were no Republican votes for the amendment, the 75 votes for it all coming from the Democratic side. Against the amendment 157 votes came from the Democratic side and 95 from the Republican side.

When the Senate's Belgian amendment was reached, a spirited debate began. The amendment provides that the provisions of the bill relating to the literacy test shall not apply to agricultural immigrants from Belgium who come to the United States in the course of the present European war or within a year from the cessation of hostilities owing to circumstances arising from the war, if such immigrants are able to show to the immigration authorities that they come in good faith with the intent to engage in agricultural pursuits in this country and to become American citizens.

Many amendments were offered. In the context of the Belgian amendment the Senate had incorporated another one, striking out a House provision that nothing in the bill should bar the wife or the minor children of any person already a citizen of the United States. Representative Cullop, of Indiana, offered an amendment widening the scope of the Belgian amendment to include immigrants who came to engage in manufacturing or industrial pursuits of any kind. Representative Gallivan, of Massachusetts, offered an amendment to protect the wives and children of persons already citizens of this country. It was ruled out as not germane.

An amendment to open the door wide to immigrants from all parts of Europe during the war was offered by Representative Towner of Iowa, but the House voted it down.

Then the House voted to disagree to the whole amendment and ask a further conference. Representatives Burnett, Saboth, and Gardner were named as conferees.

The Senate amendment barring persons of "constitutional psychopathic inferiority" and those afflicted with "chronic alcoholism" were accepted. The clause in regard to polygamists was left to be perfected by the conferees, so it could be accepted by both houses.

BALTIMORE CITIZENS THANK CONGRESSMEN

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 13.—The committee of citizens, headed by the Rev. Ernest Lyon, delegated to present protests to the Congressmen of Maryland against the passage of the Reed amendment to the Immigration bill, have written the following open letter to the Congressmen:

Baltimore, Mr., January 9, 1915.

Open letter of congratulation to Congressmen Mann, Madden, Butler and Moore sent by Dr. Lyon and his committee.

In behalf of the committee of representative citizens, we beg you to accept this letter as an evidence of our gratitude to you for the great service which you rendered the colored race in securing, by your championship on the floor and in the committees, the defeat of the amendment of the Immigration bill, excluding the future coming of people of African descent into this country.

The amendment was aimed at the colored people, and was intended to humiliate and discriminate against them. The wording of the amendment was vague and its meaning uncertain, and had it passed the House, it would have been difficult for a court to determine the meaning of the law, which would have made any amount of trouble, not only for foreign black people coming into the country, but for the American citizens of color, who were returning home from abroad.

The members of Congress who voted against it by such a large majority, influenced by you and other members—champions of the race, deserve to be congratulated for such manifestation of sober judgment and national good sense.

Allentown Pa

LEADER

JAN 1 - 1915

SENATE VOTES TO BAR NEGRO ALIENS

Adopts Amendment After Rejecting Wider Proposal.

Washington, Jan. 1.—By a vote of 29 to 25 the senate adopted an amendment to the immigration bill to exclude from the United States the members of the African or black race.

The amendment was proposed by Senator Reed, of Missouri. Another proposition of Senator Reed's to exclude from the country all aliens not of the Caucasian race was defeated by a vote of 47 to 9.

Previously, by a vote of 47 to 12, the chamber had upheld the literacy test clause of the bill. This clause is known to be disapproved by President Wilson. A similar provision was contained in a bill vetoed by former President Taft.

The senate defeated, 34 to 26, an amendment to the literacy test which would have enlarged the classes excepted from the test by adding those subject to "political and racial" persecutions.

A modified amendment which would not require political, racial or religious persecution of immigrants to be evidenced by discriminating laws of their countries or by overt acts, was also defeated.

Another amendment by Senator O'Gorman to exempt from the literacy test immigrants who came in on the plea of "political or religious" ersecution only, was defeated.

Senator Martine declared great organizations had been at work flooding the senate with false impressions on the question. He named in this connection the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and the Sons of Washington.

Watertown N.Y.

JAN 9 1915

One encouraging sign of a broadening liberality of view is in the fact that the house of representatives, by an overwhelming majority, has rejected the senate amendment to the immigration bill, excluding from the United States immigrants of "the black or African race." It was against this amendment that Booker T. Washington spoke as unjust, unnecessary and a violation of treaties. An encouraging fact is that the opposition to this intolerant and indefensible measure was led by southern democrats and the member, who spoke most forcibly against it was a democrat from Alabama and the district which is the home of Booker Washington's beneficent enterprise. It shows the effect that school has had on southern opinion and it shows, too, that the south is not afraid of adding to its negro population, the best laboring class that any country in the world possesses. The literacy clause still remains in the bill. Having passed the house and not amended in the senate it was not subject to change by a conference committee. It is hoped that President Wilson will veto the bill for the clause is distinctly against all the pretensions of American institutions. It abolishes the home of the exile and land of the free; it gives a lie to the boast that America spells opportunity. Congress may pass the bill over the preisdent's veto, but the responsibility would then be placed where it belongs upon those who assume to be ready to take it. In any event the president should veto it.

NEW YORK WORLD

January 1915

Alien Black Races.

To the Editor of The World:

As a foreign negro myself, I often wonder if a bill for the exclusion of the so-called black races can be passed. It seems to me that the prejudices of certain men of political pull are trying to influence the Government of the United States in spreading such evils that would be detrimental to good and honest government. How will such a bill affect our South American "cousins," whose friendship this country is trying to cement with a stronger tie?

THEO. G. FARQUHARSON.

New York, Jan. 5.

Immigration—1915

KINKEAD IN FIGHT WHICH KILLED BAD SENATE MEASURE

The New York

Booker Washington Appeal To Jersey Folk Prompted Stalwart Congressmen To Wage Warfare On African Exclusion

COMMITTEE GIVES THANKS

Senator Reed's Amendment Defeated by a Large Vote—Kinkead's Promise to the Committee of One Hundred Made Good.

Jersey City, Jan. 12.—The quick action of the people of New Jersey through the Committee of One Hundred and other civic organizations throughout the State, a heavy blow was dealt to Senator Reed's amendment to the immigration bill, which if had it been passed would have excluded all colored immigrants and those of colored descent.

On the receipt of Dr. Booker T. Washington telegram Dr. George E. Cannon, president of the Committee of One Hundred, with Rev. A. P. Miller and Rev. W. H. Smith, called on Congressman Kinkead of Hudson county and Senator Hughes of Passaic.

Congressman Kinkead was outspoken in denouncing the measure and said it was aimed to lower the status of the colored people of this country and that he would do everything in his power to defeat the amendment when it came before the House. Senator Hughes gave the committee encouragment by saying he would arrange to give them a hearing at Washington.

Telegrams were sent throughout the State to the Educational Committee (colored) and other civic organizations that they might get in touch with their Senators and Congressmen and ask them to use their influence to have the amendment defeated. A meeting was also called at the headquarters of the C. of O. H., at which a delegation was to have been appointed to go to Washington to protest the bill. On Wednesday, Jan. 6, Dr. Cannon received a telegram from Congressman Kinkead at Washington to the effect that there was no hearing on the amendment that day and that it would probably be up before the House Thursday.

On Thursday, Jan. 7, at 5.30 p. m., Dr. Cannon received the following telegram from Congressman Kinkead: "I am happy to inform you that the African exclusion amendment was defeated 252 to 75." This good news turned the meeting, which was called to select delegates to go to Washington to protest against the amendment, into a jollification meeting and everybody was happy.

Dr. Cannon in speaking for the Committee of One Hundred said the committee wished to express its appreciation to Congressman Kinkead for the interest he had taken in the matter that so vitally affected the standing in the community of millions of colored people. Every colored person in the State feels grateful for the interest the various Congressmen and Senators have manifested in the defeat of the exclusion amendment.

Our people of Hudson county particularly are thankful to Congressman Kinkead for his spirit of fair play and the interest he has shown by his emphatic opposition to a particularly obnoxious measure.

Washington Post

17 January 1915

PROTESTS ALIEN BILL

Booker T. Washington Says It Is Unfair to His Race.

FEW AFRICAN IMMIGRANTS

Provision in Measure Unjust to Weaker Nations, Says Head of Tuskegee Institute—Men Who Did Good Work on Panama Cnaal Would Be Debarred From Entering United States.

Editor Post: Through your newspaper, I desire to appeal to the American Congress and to the people of the United States in favor of fair play and justice in connection with the immigration bill now pending before the United States Senate which by amendment excludes from coming into this country any person of African descent.

1. The bill, in my opinion, is unjust, unreasonable, and unnecessary. It is unnecessary because only a few thousand people of African descent enter this country annually. Practically all of these that do come are mainly from the West Indies and almost none from the continent of Africa. It is evident that many of those who come into this country do not remain permanently, but I find, according to the census of 1910, there were in the United States only 40,319 negroes who were foreign-born and only 473 of these had come from Africa.

2. The bill puts an unnecessary slight upon colored people by classing them with alien criminals.

Unjust to Weak Nations.

3. The bill in its present form would seem to prohibit citizens from the republics of Liberia, Cuba, and Haiti, and also from Porto Rico and Santo Domingo entering this country, thus placing an unnecessary hardship upon these smaller countries which would not be done, in my opinion, if they were stronger. It seems to me that the strength or weakness of a nation should not constitute our sense of justice toward that nation, but the weaker the nation, the more we ought to be sure that no injustice is done.

4. In a personal conversation with a high officer of the Panama Canal commission, he told me that the service of the Jamaican negroes was invaluable in building the Panama Canal. Now that we are celebrating the completion of this great canal, it seems most unjust and unreasonable that the people who contributed in so large a measure towards the completion of the canal should be slapped in the face and told that they cannot enter this country even when they meet the requirements of our government.

5. The passing of this bill will only serve to stir up racial strife, and will accomplish no practical purpose.

6. An investigation will show that the colored people who have come to this country from the West Indian Islands and from other foreign countries have proved as a whole to be a law-abiding, intelligent, industrious class. They have never become anarchists or as a class given trouble to the government.

Stirs Race Antagonism.

Let me repeat, then, it is unfair at this time, when we are all striving to bring about racial harmony and peace, to raise a question which is only calculated to stir up needless strife, and I cannot feel that the best people in the South, where the bulk of the colored people live, approve the passage of any such bill.

Lastly, the passing of such an unjust law will cripple the missionary and educational work which we are trying to do in Africa and elsewhere. For a number of years some of the brightest young people from Africa and elsewhere have been coming to this country to receive training to fit them to go back and help their people, and this they have done in an effective manner. All this, I understand, will be stopped by the passing of this law.

This measure is not political or sectional, and I hope that all people will see the justice of asking Congress to refrain from perpetrating this unjust act upon my race. Certainly we have enough to contend with already without having this additional handicap and discouragement placed in our pathway.

NEGRO EXCLUSION IN IMMIGRATION BILL KILLED IN THE HOUSE

NEW YORK WORLD

By An Overwelming Vote, The House Defeats Senate Amendment

6 January 1915

The New America

Washington, January 7.—The House yesterday by a vote of 252 to 75 refused to concur with the Senate amendment to the Immigration Bill barring the future entrance to this country of persons of African descent.

The fight for the elimination of the clause was led by Congressman Mann, the Republican floor leader; Congressman Martin B. Madden of Illinois; Congressmen J. Hampton Moore and Butler, both of Pennsylvania.

Representative Moore, who is a member of the House Immigration Committee, made an impassioned speech against the passage of the amendment. He elicited from Southern supporters of the amendment the fact that any Negro who left the country would be debarred from coming back.

Judge Burnett, of Alabama also made a vigorous speech against the Negro exclusion clause. Congressmen Talbott, Linthicum and Lewis of Maryland, were recorded as voting in favor of excluding colored immigrants, and Representative Coady cast his vote against that feature of that bill.

During the debate it was freely asserted that Senator Reed, of Missouri, who offered the amendment, was actuated by a desire to defeat the entire bill.

The Negro exclusion clause frightened many members of Congress who believe that the colored voters in their respective districts would resent by voting against those who favored the amendment.

Senator Reed, who offered the amendment, did not vote for the final passage of the Immigration Bill last Saturday. Senator Borah, who is said to be an aspirant for the Republican nominati n for President, voted for the clause excluding colored immigrants.

FAIR PLAY FOR NEGRO ALIENS.

To the Editor of The World:

Through your newspaper I desire to appeal to the American Congress and to the people of the United States in favor of fair play and justice in connection with the Immigration Bill now pending before the United States Senate, which by amendment excludes from coming into this country any person of African descent.

The bill, in my opinion, is unjust, unreasonable and unnecessary. It is unnecessary because only a few thousand people of African descent enter this country annually. Practically all of these that do come are mainly from the West Indies and almost none from the continent of Africa. It is evident that many of those who come into this country do not remain permanently, but I find, according to the census of 1910, there were in the United States only 40,319 negroes who were foreign born and only 473 of these had come from Africa.

The bill puts an unnecessary slight upon colored people by classing them with alien criminals.

The bill in its present form would seem to prohibit citizens from the Republics of Liberia, Cuba and Hayti, and also from Porto Rico and Santo Domingo, entering this country, thus placing an unnecessary hardship upon these smaller countries, which would not be done, in my opinion, if they were stronger.

In a personal conversation with a high officer of the Panama Canal Commission he told me that the services of the Jamaican negroes were invaluable in building the Panama Canal. Now that we are celebrating the completion of this great canal, it seems most unjust and unreasonable that the people who contributed in so large a measure toward it should be slapped in the face and told that they cannot enter this country even when they meet the requirements of our Government.

An investigation will show that the colored people who have come to this country from the West Indian Islands and from other foreign countries have proved as a whole to be a law-abiding, intelligent, industrious class. They have never become Anarchists or as a class given trouble to the Government.

Let me repeat that it is unfair at this time, when we are all striving to bring about racial harmony and peace, to raise a question which is calculated to stir up needless strife, and I cannot feel that the best people in the South approve of any such bill.

Lastly, the passing of such an unjust law will cripple the missionary and educational work which we are

trying to do in Africa and elsewhere. For a number of years some of the brightest young people from Africa and elsewhere have been coming to this country to receive training to fit them to go back and help their people, and this they have done in an effective manner. All this, I understand, will be stopped by the passing of this law.

This measure is not political or sectional, and I hope that all people will see the justice of asking Congress to refrain from perpetrating this unjust act upon my race. Certainly we have enough to cont[illegible] with already without having thi additional handicap and discouragement placed in our pathway.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 2.

Rochester Post Express

JAN [illegible] 1915

Fair Play for Negroes.

I desire to appeal to the American congress and the people of the United States in favor of fair play and justice in connection with the immigration bill now pending before the United States senate, which, by amendment excludes from coming into this country any persons of African descent.

(1.) The bill, in my opinion, is unjust, unreasonable, unnecessary. It is unnecessary because only a few thousand people of African descent enter this country annually. Practically all of these that do come are mainly from the continent of Africa. It is evident that many of those who come into this country do not remain permanently, but, I find, according to the census of 1910, there are in the United States only 40,319 negroes who were foreign born, and only 475 of these had come from Africa.

(2.) The bill puts an unnecessary slight upon colored people by classing them with alien criminals.

(3.) The bill in its present form would seem to prohibit citizens from the Republic of Liberia, Cuba, and Haiti, and also from Porto Rico and San Domingo, entering this country, thus placing an unnecessary hardship upon these smaller countries which would not be done, in my opinion, if they were stronger. It seems to me that the strength or weakness of the nation should not constitute our sense of justice towards that nation, but the weaker the nation, the more we ought to be sure that no injustice is done.

(4.) In a personal conversation with a high officer of the Panama Canal commission, he told me that the services of the Jamaican negroes were invaluable in building the Panama canal. Now that we are celebrating the completion of this great canal, it seems most unjust and unreasonable that the people who contributed in so large a measure towards the completion of the canal should be slapped in the face and told that they cannot enter this country even when they meet the requirements of our government.

(5.) The passing of this bill will stir up racial strife and accomplish no practical purpose.

(6.) An investigation will show that the colored people who come to this country from the West Indian Islands and from other foreign countries have proven as a whole to be a law-abiding, intelligent, industrious class. They have never become anarchists or as a class given trouble to this government.

Let me repeat, then, it is unfair at this time when we are all striving to bring about racial harmony and peace to raise a question which is calculated to stir up needless strife, and I cannot feel that the best people in the South, where the bulk of the colored people live, approve of the passage of any such bill.

Lastly, the passing of any such unjust law will cripple the missionary and educational work which we are trying to do in Africa and elsewhere. For a number of years some of the brightest young people from Africa and elsewhere have been coming to this country to receive training to fit them to go back and help their people, and this they have done in an effective manner. All this, I understand, will be stopped by the passing of this law.

This measure is not political or sectional, and I hope that all people will see the justice of asking congress to refrain from perpetrating this unjust act upon my race. Certainly we have enough to contend with already without having this additional hardship and discouragement placed in our pathway.

Booker T. Washington, in New York "Evening Post."

Chicago Tribune

JAN 2 3 1915

AGAINST EXCLUDING NEGROES.

Evanston, Ill., Jan. 17.—[Editor of The Tribune.]—I desire, as a southerner, to add my protest to that of Mr. Booker T. Washington against the amendment clause in the immigration bill now pending before the United States senate excluding any person of African descent from entrance into this country and to disavow, not only for myself but for all other southerners with whose opinions I happen to be in touch, any participation in the sentiment which dictated this measure.

From a fair knowledge of the subject, I should say that the negroes who come into this country from Cuba, Haiti, Porto Rico, and Santo Domingo are, as a class, actuated by commendable motives of economic and social betterment, and represent not only a somewhat higher type than the average body of negroes but are even superior to a considerable proportion of European white immigrants. Furthermore, the total number of colored immigrants is so small as to be in no sense of the word, either now or in the future, a menace, whereas their exclusion will be resented, with some show of reason, by the colored population of this country—a fact which will certainly not increase, but is more likely to decrease, the good feeling existing between themselves and the whites.

I do not know what connection Mr. Wilson may have had with this bill, but his stand upon the whole negro question has not been characterized by the same broadness and patience which he has exhibited in other directions.

HOWARD VAN S. TRACY.

Cincinnati, O.

Inquirer
JAN 4 - 1915

ANTI-NEGRO AMENDMENT

Brings Protest From Allen Temple Church Congregation.

A protest against the anti-negro amendment to the immigration bill offered by Senator Reed was voted yesterday by the congregation of the Allen Temple Church, colored, Sixth street and Broadway, of which Rev. Charles [illegible]ner Williams is pastor. Protests w[illegible]d to members of Congress last night.

The protest was made on the grounds that the bill is a violation of present treaty rights; that it is an evil expression of the nation's estimate of the negro, and that it is a sacrifice of the negro because of prejudice against other powerful alien people.

The pastor of the church said last night that the protest was a part of a movement of the colored people against that kind of legislation, and that that the negroes of the state were aroused as never before.

[illegible]dford, Mass.

STANDARD

JAN 8 1915

SPEAKS FOR NEGROES.

THACHER AGAINST EXCLUSION AMENDMENT.

Congressman Helps to Defeat Concurrence on Part of the House with Senate Amendment to Immigration Bill.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 8.—The vote of Congressman Thacher was among that of other northern Democrats and Republicans which helped in the house to defeat con- in the house today to defeat concurrence on the part of the house with that amendment in the immigration bill by the senate, excluding hereafter the immigration of Negroes into the United States.

Congressman Thacher also made a speech against the amendment, pointing out that if it were allowed to become law, colored people from the West Indies would be forbidden entrance into the United States, inclusive of many of those who have come to the United States to be located, quite a number of them being even now in Howard university.

JAN 16 1915

Booker Washington's Appeal

TOPEKA DAILY CAPITAL — The American nation has come to have respect for Booker T. Washington, not only because of the positive good he does with his Tuskegee Institute and his moral influence upon members of his race, but because of his patience. . . . Because we never see or hear Booker Washington breaking forth in noisy protests and complaints and bitter railings against the injustices and sufferance of his people, all the more is he entitled to a sympathetic hearing when he lifts his voice against a political action. This he has done in letters to the newspapers, protesting in the name of American liberty against the amendment inserted in the pending immigration bill excluding all negroes. . . . He points out that there is no trouble of any sort from negro immigration, because there is no such immigration, but that this proposal is a gratuitous and wanton slap in the face to the negro race, that it would prevent the landing on our shores of those negroes from Africa who commonly come here, sent by some body interested in negro betterment, to be trained for returning to Africa and labbring for the uplift of their race, that a mulatto president of Cuba or San Domingo could not land at New York harbor, and that, as the Springfield Republican remarks, "an octoroon Methodist bishop from Rhodesia, highly educated and fully able to earn his living, would be deported under this act, if he should seek to enter the country."

BOSTON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE [illegible]

JAN [illegible] 1915

LAW CALLED DISCRIMINATION

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Provisions of the immigration bill passed by the Senate which bars immigrants of African descent were criticized as unjust in a statement issued by Booker T. Washington, the negro educator, says a special to the New Orleans Item. Pointing to the service rendered by West Indian negroes in the construction of the Panama canal, Dr. Washington declared that to exclude such a race would be unwarranted discrimination.

NEW YORK WORLD

JAN 10 1915

In Justice to Our Negroes.

To the Editor of The World:

I am sorry that you oppose the restriction of negro immigrants. Such immigration should be stopped, in the interest of the white men and in the interest of black Americans.

The negroes already in the country, native citizens, face declining opportunities. Occupations once open to them are being closed. Where now are the old-fashioned negro waiters in hotels? Even as cotton-field hands and farmers, Italians are preferred as fast as they make their way to the South.

No one in the country more needs protection against the importation of competitive labor than the negro.

New York, Jan. 5. PLAIN SPEECH.

MAKES PLEA FOR THE WEST INDIAN NEGRO

Detroiter Complains of Immigration Plan and Cites Work at Panama Canal.

To the Editor: I have read with regret in your paper that a law has been passed barring Negroes from the U. S. A., and also several pieces kicking against it. Is it because of the Japanese question, that they would have to admit the Japanese, or stop the Negro from coming, or is it that the foreign Negro turns out to be a burden to the country in the crimes they commit?

I am from the West Indies, and I know that when they were building the Panama canal they had agents in the various islands, signing of men to go there, as after they had tried other labor, they found that the West Indan Negro could stand the hot climate better than those they had tried. Some of these men have since returned home wrecks, since the completion of the canal they are shipping them back in droves. Is it fair then that hard laboring men like these should be barred from this country?

In New York today nearly all the first class apartment hotel elevators are run by West Indian Negroes, as they were found to be more polite and more steady than others. I would not be surprised that if you took a census of the elevators run by Negroes in the city of Detroit you would find a number of West Indians.

Labor problem in the West Indian islands after they started to go to the canal was hard and the price had to be higher. The return will put them back to their low rate. Some of them will be glad to get back where potatoes sell at 20 cents to 50 cents a bushel and sometimes lower.

W. E. INNISS.
Detroit, January 8, 1915.

Immigration – 1915

Chicago, Ill.
POST
JAN 6 - 1915

Letters to the Editor

The Evening Post is glad to receive letters from its readers upon any interesting topic of the day. It suggests, however, that these letters be held within a limit of 200 words.

Negro Exclusion.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—To the Editor of THE POST. Sir: In the excitement over the literary test in the new immigration law the general public has overlooked and the Senate has quietly adopted, by a bare majority of four, an amendment which can hardly be justified on any ground except that of blind racial prejudice and, as such, can be productive of no good to this country.

The exclusion of "alien African or black races" cannot be defended in the interest of the general welfare. With the exception of a few students and business men, African negroes very seldom come to this country, and those will get in Europe all and more than they can get here. From the West Indies and from South America a comparatively small number of people of negro blood emigrate to the United States, but their presence in this country has always been a wholesome influence among the native colored population.

From the days of the Catholic sisters of the "free people of color" from Santo Domingo, who, nearly a century ago, established educational institutions in Baltimore and other cities, to the elevator boy of today who becomes the university graduate of tomorrow, the black or colored alien from other parts of America has contributed to the uplift of his congeners in this country, and, therefore, to the welfare of the whole American people.

To Vardaman and legislators who believe that the negroid population can and ought to be outlawed into a permanently dependent class it may appear essential to the maintenance of "white supremacy" to exclude men of the capabilities of the late Bishop Derrick, a veteran of the civil war and a leader in the religious and civic institutions of the American negro.

But the sober common sense of the American people will hardly see the wisdom or the need of excluding a small number of aliens of the same racial stock as a considerable portion of the American citizens, aliens who can always pass the literacy test and who, with rare exceptions, become industrious, law-abiding and progressive residents of the United States.

Apart from the sheer viciousness of the anti-negro amendment, this feature of the immigration law is rendered doubly ridiculous by the inevitable difficulty of its operation. It is easy enough to exclude the Chinese, for it is easy enough to say who is a Chinese. But who is going to decide the degree of blackness of the "alien black races?"

In Mississippi or Georgia a man who is one-sixteenth black is all black, if his neighbors know of the existence of that sixteenth part of negro blood. But who can tell whether a Porto Rican is a mestizo or a "Spaniard?"

If a Porto Rican can come to the United States, why not a native of Santa Cruz or Jamaica?

If a black or blackish man from Key West may come to New York, why should one from Nassau be prevented from settling in Miami or Jacksonville or Boston, since the native of the Bahamas is to all practical intents and purposes as much "alien" to Washington or New York as a native of the Florida cayos or the Georgia sea islands is sui generis to London.

Sooner or later the nominal authority of Great Britain in the Caribbean and adjacent islands may give way to the Stars and Stripes, but the fact remains that the people of the West Indies and South America, whatever their color, are very much more closely allied to North America than they are to Europe.

The American Congress cannot cement these relations by making laws which will prove obnoxious and hurtful to their southern neighbors.

The new immigration decree forbids the entry into the United States of a former Vice President of Panama, one of Cuba and scores of men prominent in South American affairs. North America chooses to call these men "black," while it permits the darkest East Indian from Trinidad to come here, because the books say that the East Indian is of the Aryan or "white" race.

It cannot be denied that the people of the United States and their legislators have a perfect right to decide who shall be admitted to this country, but there is not the slightest warrant in sound policy for a law which will inevitably tend to disrupt the growing relations of cordiality among the peoples of all America.

JOSE CLARANA.

N.Y. EV. MAIL
January 1915

No Negro Exclusion.

The vote in the House of Representatives was emphatic—252 to 75—in rejecting the extraordinary Senate amendment to the immigration bill to exclude alien negroes from this country. Even the Democrats voted two to one against it, the South was divided on the issue, and the spirit of unreconstructed Bourbonism reached its low-water mark on the roll call.

Thus overwhelmingly was smothered this bit of archaic prejudice against a race that has risen in half a century from servitude to a good average of citizenship. The Senate will hardly venture to press the amendment in the face of the vote in the House.

American
JAN 5 1915

THE PEOPLE'S LETTER BOX

TOPICS DISCUSSED BY READERS OF THIS PAPER.

IMMIGRANTS AND THE SOUTH

Low-standard Foreign Laborers Are Not Wanted Below the Mason and Dixon Line, Says Prescott F. Hall — Southern States Which Abolished Immigration Bureaus. The Danger of Complicating Sectional Race Problems.

Letters designed for publication in this column must be indorsed with the name and address of the writer.
Anonymous communications will not be considered.
When the writer so prefers his name will not be published.
Letters should not exceed 500 words.
Subjects leading to religious controversy should be avoided.
Letters not available will be returned only when a stamp for this purpose is enclosed.

To the Editor: Regarding the immigration bill which has passed both houses of Congress and is now up to the President, and which he is expected to veto, there is considerable to say from a sectional point of view. The South, taken as a whole, wants a restricted immigration. The states below the old Mason and Dixon line care nothing for the most numerous class of immigrants the present law allows to enter this country.

There are exceptions to this, it is true; the railroads and a few big planters may welcome the low standard laborers of Europe, but it is only from selfish motives. Such labor as this will undermine even the cheap labor of the negro.

The true attitude of the South was plainly set forth at Tampa in 1908 at the conference of the Commissioners of Agriculture and Immigration; by resolutions of the legislatures of Virginia and Tennessee; also the fact that North Carolina and South Carolina have abolished their immigration bureaus and instructed their agricultural boards not to seek immigrants.

And by far the greatest proof is in the fact that the Farmers' Agricultural and Co-operative Union, with a membership of 3,000,000 in the South and West, has demanded again and again the passing of the reading test clause.

Again, immigrants from Southeastern Europe and Asia have not the same objections to interbreeding with the negroes that the northern races have; therefore a large influx of these immigrants after the war would but tend to increase the complications of the negro problem. Booker Washington, the greatest exponent of the negro race, is bitterly against the blending of such people with the American-born negro.

The South is well within its rights when it says: "We do not want these immigrants." Its white birth rate always has been high. What has happened in the North? Race suicide is prevalent and it dates in that part of the country from the large immigration of 1840 to 1850, increasing with each succeeding wave of lower quality immigration and affecting not only the original settlers, but the earlier immigrants. At present in the South the only socially inferior class is definitely marked off by color.

The one serious result of immigration of Mediterranean stock to the Southern states would be an increase of negro halfbreeds and the substitution of these races for the Anglo Saxon and the French now bearing the proud name of Southerners.

The attitude of the South all along has been shown by their advocacy of restricted immigration and the sending of both senators and representatives to Congress on a platform protecting their homes from the invasion of undesirable foreigners. Yours truly,

PRESCOTT F. HALL,
Secretary Executive Committee
Immigration Restriction League.
Boston, January 23.